

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A seat assembly for use in an automotive vehicle comprising:
a generally horizontal seat cushion;
a seat back pivotally coupled to said seat cushion for movement between an upright seating position and a folded flat position overlying said seat cushion, said seat back including a front face facing said seat cushion and an opposite rear face;
a seat back panel fixedly secured to said rear face of said seat back and having a support surface for supporting a load above said seat back in said folded flat position; and
at least one hook fixedly secured to said seat back panel and ~~[[arrange]]~~ arranged to project downwardly from said seat back when in said upright position to prevent usage and project upwardly from said seat back when in said folded flat position for use in supporting articles on said seat back panel; said hook including a slanted portion fixedly secured to said seat back panel and projecting outwardly and downwardly from said seat back panel when said seat back is in said upright seating position and a retaining portion fixedly secured to and projecting from said slanted portion and generally perpendicular to said seat back in said folded flat position defining a generally U-shaped channel between said retaining portion and said seat back panel for receiving and securing articles on said hook when said seat back is in said folded flat position.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A seat assembly as set forth in claim [[3]] 1 wherein said seat back panel includes a pair of elevating support panels spaced from said rear face of said seat back and attached thereto by at least one clip.

5. (Currently Amended) A seat assembly as set forth in claim [[3]] 1 wherein said seat back panel includes a connection piece fixedly secured to said rear face of said seat back and extending outwardly and generally perpendicular to said seat back, wherein said U-shaped channel is formed between said retaining portion of said hook and said connection piece.

6. (Currently Amended) A seat assembly as set forth in claim 5 wherein said seat back panel includes a support surface piece extending from said connection piece generally parallel to said seat back to a distal end to support a load spaced from said seat back in said folded flat position and defining a cavity between said support surface piece and said seat back for providing stowage therebetween.

7. (Original) A seat assembly as set forth in claim 6 wherein said seat back panel includes a pair of hooks projecting from said connection piece of said seat back panel for use in said folded flat position.

8. (Original) A seat assembly as set forth in claim 7 wherein said seat back panel includes at least one opening extending through at least one of said connection piece and said support surface piece for retaining an article along said seat back.